

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claim 1-2 are rejected under U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hollingsworth et al. (US 2003/0200379A1). Claim 3 is rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollingsworth et al.

Abstract of the Disclosure

Applicant is submitting a substitute Abstract of the Disclosure for that originally filed with this application to more clearly describe the claimed invention. Entry of the Substitute Abstract of the Disclosure is respectfully requested.

Drawings

Applicant has amended Figure 1, as illustrated on the attached formal drawing, accompanied by a LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON. Figure 1 was amended to change "commend" to read --command--. No "new matter" has been added to the original disclosure by the amendment to this figure. Entry of the corrected drawing is respectfully requested.

New Claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and added new claims 4-5 to this application. It is believed that the new and amended claims specifically set forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

The Examiner stated that Hollingsworth et al. disclose that a computer BIOS searches for a boot disk to allow an operating system to be loaded from the disk. Further, the Examiner stated that the disk disclosed by Hollingsworth et al. may be Via USB. Applicant would like to traverse the facts that booting an OS from the solid state floppy disk drive is the same as, or equivalent to, the booting from a memory card which is plugged at a slot of a card reader, particularly the card is not limited to be the first slot. Applicant thought that the solid state disk at most is equivalent to

a thumb disk not a multi-card reader. The solid state floppy disk drive has no slot to insert a memory card. Applicant admits that the BIOS on the mother board supporting the booting OS through USB port is not new. A peripheral device using USB interface may allow computer booting from it if a disk such as CD ROM, hard disk, or hand-held flash or a thumb disk, floppy disk is accompanied with the peripheral device having booting pattern. However, until now, multi-flash card readers did not support booting the OS from an arbitrary slot.

In Hollingsworth et al., the solid state floppy disk drive disclosed is a flash disk having several partitions and each of them can be emulated itself as a floppy. The 1st partition contains a boot sector having a booting pattern and other sectors contain an operation system so that the operation system therein can be booted from the solid state floppy disk drive. Though the 1st partition may include a disk switch utility program or disk swap utility program, which allow the program in the second partitions to be run as if it was being loaded or accessed from a second disk or allow the emulated switching between any number of partitions or "disks", Hollingsworth et al. do not imply that the OS can be booted from the second partition, or another, please see [0011] and [0032] of Hollingsworth et al. Booting the OS from the 2nd partition or above is meaningless since it still has to read the utility program from the first partition. By contrast, the computer booting can be from any slot number if the slot has a memory card having bootable pattern according to the present Application. It is because that the USB card reader has a firmware therein to judge which slot has a memory card.

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Hollingsworth et al. do not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's new and amended claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Hollingsworth et al. cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's new and amended claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is further submitted that Hollingsworth et al. do not disclose, or suggest any modification of the specifically disclosed structures that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. Thus, it is not believed that Hollingsworth et al. render obvious any of Applicant's new and amended claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Application No. 10/762,234

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed is a new formal drawing of Figure 1, accompanied by a LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON. In Figure 1, the word "commend" was changed to read --command--.